

REMARKS

Initially, Applicant filed Information Disclosure Statements (IDS's) on February 26, 2001 and October 30, 2001 that cited several Japanese documents. Accompanying these IDS's, Applicant identified the relevance of each of the documents. The Examiner acknowledged receipt of these IDS's, but did not consider the documents cited therein. Applicant includes herewith an IDS that cites these previously-cited documents and provides English language Abstracts that describe these documents. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the documents cited in connection with the IDS by initialing and returning a copy of the Form 1449 that accompanies the IDS.

In the non-final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Yin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,982,748) in view of Anbiah et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,690,671). The Examiner objected to claims 2-5 as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner allowed claims 6-10.

By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1-10 to improve form. Applicant appreciates the identification of allowable subject matter, but respectfully traverses the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 with regard to the claims as presented herein. Claims 1-10 remain pending.

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Yin et al. in view of Anbiah et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection.

Amended independent claim 1 is directed to a call admission control method in an ATM switch. The method comprises receiving a QoS (Quality of Service) specified connection request; calculating an assigned bandwidth on a link associated with the QoS-specified connection request; calculating an average bandwidth to be assigned to existing QoS-unspecified traffic on the link associated with the QoS-specified connection request; and determining whether the QoS-specified connection request is accepted based on a combination of the assigned bandwidth and the average bandwidth.

Neither Yin et al. nor Anbiah et al., whether taken alone or in any reasonable combination, discloses or suggests the combination of features recited in claim 1. For example, neither Yin et al. nor Anbiah et al. discloses or suggests calculating an average bandwidth to be assigned to existing QoS-unspecified traffic on a link associated with a QoS-specified connection request.

Instead, Yin et al. discloses determining the available resources for a class of service (e.g., constant bit rate, variable bit rate, non-real-time variable bit rate, available bit rate, or unspecified bit rate) associated with a requested connection by considering the total resources available to the requested class of service and the resources already assigned to existing connection using the requested class of service (col. 4, lines 49-55; col. 5, lines 61-66). Nowhere does Yin et al. disclose or suggest that determining the available resources includes calculating an average bandwidth to be assigned to existing QoS-unspecified traffic on a link associated with a QoS-specified connection request, as required by claim 1.

Anbiah et al. discloses that as each unspecified bit rate virtual circuit is identified, an administrator associates an estimated bandwidth with the virtual circuit (col. 4, lines 20-22).

Nowhere does Anbiah et al. disclose or suggest that estimating the bandwidth of the virtual circuit includes calculating an average bandwidth to be assigned to existing QoS-unspecified traffic on a link associated with a QoS-specified connection request, as required by claim 1.

Because neither Yin et al. nor Anbiah et al. discloses or suggests calculating an average bandwidth to be assigned to existing QoS-unspecified traffic on a link associated with a QoS-specified connection request, Yin et al. and Anbiah et al. cannot disclose determining whether the QoS-specified connection request is accepted based on a combination of the assigned bandwidth and the average bandwidth, as further required by claim 1.

For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over Yin et al. and Anbiah et al., whether taken alone or in any reasonable combination.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

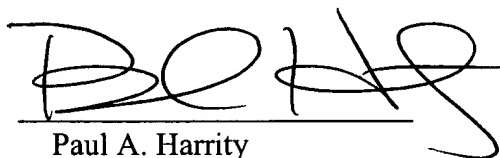
If the Examiner does not believe that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution of this application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1070 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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